

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Westside Lead - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: POLREP #8
Progress
Westside Lead
C482
ATLANTA, GA
Latitude: 33.7654320 Longitude: -84.4087470

To: James Webster, USEPA R4 ERRPB

From: Chuck Berry, OSC

Date: 6/2/2020

Reporting Period: May 18 - May 31, 2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C482	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:	68HE0420F0006	Action Memo Date:	5/6/2020
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	1/6/2020	Start Date:	1/6/2020
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	GAN000407160	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	GA EPD
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Other - Historical use of contaminated fill prior to implementation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

The Westside Lead Site is located in the English Avenue and Vine City neighborhoods of Atlanta, just west of downtown. In January, 2020, the site boundaries were expanded. The new site is bounded by the former CSX rail line and Northside Drive to the east, North Avenue to the north, Oliver Street and Sciple Terrace to the west, and Foundry Street to the south. The address used is 395 Elm Street, Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia 30314. The Site coordinates are Latitude: 33.7654320, Longitude: -84.4087470.

The Site is primarily residential with commercial and institutional property interspersed throughout, but particularly along the eastern border abutting the former rail line. Additionally, several large City parks are included in the new boundary. Based on a parcel-by-parcel survey, there are 1068 residential properties within the entirety of the boundary, both Phase 1 and 2. Most are single-family homes, although there are several multi-family properties within the area. Nearly all of the owners are absentee landlords renting out the property. Additionally, the area has a high percentage of unimproved or abandoned property. The 2008 housing crisis left many properties distressed, and many properties remain abandoned.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Refer to Initial POLREP for this information.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Refer to Initial POLREP for this information.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Previous Response Actions

Residential soil excavation began on January 27, 2020. For a detailed accounting of previous activity during this response, please see the prior Pollution Reports.

2.1.2 Response Actions This Reporting Period

Crews resumed interaction with the residential population using the new COVID-19 guidelines promulgated by Region 4 SEMD. Sampling teams resumed work on occupied property. Owners are asked specifically if they are comfortable with the interaction, and the decision to sample is entirely at the owner's discretion. To date, no owner has denied teams access due to COVID-19 concerns. Removal Crews also resumed interaction with residents, performing an initial walk through with a Tier 2 property owner / resident, and

beginning excavation of that property. New PPE usage and distancing protocols were used, and the interaction proceeded without incident.

The Remedial and Site Assessment Branch initiated a Preliminary Assessment to explore listing the site on the National Priorities List. Beginning on June 1, 2020, the initial property sampling and assessment will transition to this project. High priority properties identified during this sampling initiative will be referred to the Removal Action for accelerated cleanup. Additionally, most of the outreach designed to introduce residents to the site and obtain access agreements will be performed under the RSES project.

Atlanta Gas Light is disconnecting unused service lines in the West Atlanta neighborhoods, and approximately 40 locations are within the Westside Lead site boundary. Working with the OSC, AGL submitted a general workplan proposal to the OSC for comment. The OSC is currently reviewing the proposal.

EPA is also in consult with the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management for access to water service at the new START and EPA office trailers. There is an administrative rule in DWM that disallows for direct water service hookups for office trailers. EPA is currently discussing alternatives and options with DWM for service. Water service is a necessity as START will decontaminate sampling equipment on site.

On Thursday, May 28, 2020, EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker toured the site. Areas of focus were the sampling protocol used to determine a property's eligibility for removal, the removal methodology including XRF use to guide removal depth, and the logistics of the site staging area. Also noted were the COVID-19 protocols used at the site. The tour lasted approximately 25 minutes.

2.1.2 Outreach and Community Involvement

Due to COVID-19, face-to-face interaction with large groups has been suspended. However, communication via telephone, email and internet continues. ERRPPB is currently exploring alternative methods of engaging with the public while maintaining social distancing. A new mapping tool was added to the project web site to allow citizens to determine if their property is within the study area. The tool is located at <https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/csinfo.cfm?id=0407160>.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Enforcement activities continue. If a PRP is identified, appropriate action will be taken.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Metrics are current as of the end of the reporting period.

SAMPLING	
Total Properties (estimated):	1068
Access Granted:	357
Properties Sampled:	298
Properties Requiring Removal (>400 ppm):	145
TIERS	
Tier 1 - Children present and soil Pb > 1,200 ppm	1
Tier 2 - Children present and soil Pb >400 and <1200 ppm	11
Tier 3 - Adults only and soil Pb >1,200 ppm	5
Tier 4 - Adults only and soil Pb >400 <1,200 ppm	36
Tier 5 - Unimproved or abandoned property with soil Pb >400	92
REMOVALS	
Properties Requiring Removal:	145
Properties in Progress:	5
Properties Completed:	21
Properties Remaining:	124
DISPOSAL	
Tons of non-hazardous soil:	5,864

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

During the weeks of June 1 - 14, ERRS will complete the list of remaining unimproved / vacant properties began under the COVID-19 restrictions, transitioning back to full-focus on higher-tier properties. EPA and ERRS will continue to attempt to obtain water service for the proposed office location on Meldrum Street.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The Region 4 Superfund Remedial and Site Evaluation Branch has initiated a Preliminary Assessment for the Westside Lead Site. All sampling and outreach efforts to support sampling will be transferred to RSEB on June 1, 2020.

2.2.2 Issues

Worker health and safety due to the coronavirus outbreak is of utmost concern. Workers are implementing and continually evaluating the SEMD COVID-19 protocols.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

An Action Memorandum funding increase was signed on May 6, 2020, bringing the total site allocation, including contingency funds, to \$5,940,000. The Action Memorandum also exempted the site from the 12-month and \$2,000,000 statutory limits.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$4,100,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$2,600,000.00	63.41%
TAT/START	\$1,300,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$1,180,000.00	90.77%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$5,400,000.00	\$1,620,000.00	\$3,780,000.00	70.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

STAFFING THIS REPORTING PERIOD

OSCs: 1

CICs: 1

START: 1

ERRS: 14

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.